



Wonderful syllogism -- I am the only effective rooter-outer of Communists; there are still Communists in Government (Davies); this Government headed by Eisenhower; therefore unless Eisenhower roots them out my way, he is a harbinger of Communists.

Wednesday, James Reston phoned to talk about this, and I told him I knew nothing about it, as Pres. out of town and I had had no discussions on the subject. He asked me personally what I thought, and I replied that I thought McCarthy had declared war on the President.

Sent memorandum to Sherman Adams to that effect, suggesting President be prepared with right question and answer for next press conference.

Thursday, Reston's piece included reference to one White House official who felt that this was declaration of war on President.

Friday, Hauge reported that at Jerry Persons session on this subject, Persons very upset by all this because declaration of war "would make it more difficult to get McCarthy and his allies to vote for Presidential program", and I was identified with statement, probably because I had sent Persons copy my memo to Sherman Adams which contained same thought.

Can't understand his line of argument. Consider it disastrous appeasement which began September 1952, when the campaign train crossed Wisconsin border and the boys persuaded Eisenhower take out reference to General Marshall in his Milwaukee speech. That was the beginning.

This has been Milestone Week for more than one reason.

All the vague feelings of unhappiness I have had regarding "lack of leadership" over the past many months, which I have always put down, really bounced up this week, and I am very frightened.